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signal output means for outputting a control signal when said input means inputs the predetermined character data, the control signal being supplied to said interface means, and said interface means supplying the recording data to said printer unit every time said interface means receives the control signal.

5. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein said gate means has AND gates to each of which a corresponding one of bits of said predetermined character data and a corresponding one of bits of said recording data from said interface means are input.

**6. The facsimile means as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:**

a connector connected to said printer unit, through which connector recording data is supplied from an external unit to said printer unit; and

selecting means, coupled to said connector and said interface means, for selecting either a connection between said interface means and said printer unit or a connection between said connector and said printer unit.

7. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein said interface means has loading means for loading the predetermined character data into said printer unit.

8. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein said loading means loads the predetermined character data into said printer unit when said printer unit is activated.

9. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein said input means has converting means for converting the predetermined character data into black data indicating a font having only black dots, and wherein when the black data is supplied to said gate means, the recording data from said interface means is supplied to said printing portion via said gate means.

**10. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 9, wherein said converting means has OR gates to each of which a corresponding one of the bits of the predetermined character data and a bit indicating a black dot are input.**

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[ --11. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion printing the recording data; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion,

supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at

predetermined printing intervals.]

12. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said printer unit and said interface are coupled to each other based on a Centronics interface specification.

5,6 A4) [13. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said data supply controller comprises:

an input receiving a predetermined character data at the predetermined printing intervals;

a gate gating the recording data so that the recording data from said interface is supplied to said printing portion when the predetermined character data is supplied thereto from said input; and

a signal output outputting a control signal when said input inputs the predetermined character data, the control signal being supplied to said interface, and said interface supplying the recording data to said printer unit every time said interface receives the control signal.]

14. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 13, wherein the predetermined

character data indicates a font having only black dots.

15. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 14, wherein said gate has AND gates to each of which a corresponding one of bits of said predetermined character data and a corresponding one of bits of said recording data from said interface are input.

16. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

a connector connected to said printer unit, through which connector recording data is supplied from an external unit to said printer unit; and

a selector, coupled to said connector and said interface, selecting either a connection between said interface and said printer unit or a connection between said connector and said printer unit.

17. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim <sup>11</sup>~~13~~, wherein said interface loads the predetermined character data into said printer unit.

18. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 17, wherein said interface loads the predetermined character data into said printer unit when said printer unit is activated.

19. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim <sup>11</sup>~~13~~, wherein said input converts the predetermined character data into black data indicating a font having only black dots, and wherein when the black data is supplied to said gate, the recording data from said interface is supplied to said printing portion via said gate.

20. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 19, wherein said converter has OR gates to each of which a corresponding one of the bits of the predetermined character data and a bit indicating a black dot are input.

21. The facsimile machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said interface performs a format conversion process to obtain the converted format.

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[22. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion printing the recording data as a plurality of dots; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion,

supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at

predetermined printing intervals.

[23. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion including a carriage printing the recording data while the

carriage is moving in a first direction and a second direction opposite to the first

direction; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion,

supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at

predetermined printing intervals.

24. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

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in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion printing the recording data and including a carriage which skips over areas having no image; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion, supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

25. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion storing the recording data in a memory and printing the stored recording data; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion, initially clearing the memory in the printing portion and then supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

26. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit printing out data supplied thereto; and

an interface, coupled to said printer unit, supplying recording data to said printer unit

in a converted format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion printing the recording data and including a font memory

storing font data; and

a data supply controller, coupled to said interface and said printer portion,  
supplying the recording data from said interface to said printing portion at  
predetermined printing intervals.

27. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit for printing out data supplied thereto; and

interface means, coupled to said printer unit, for converting facsimile image data into  
recording data having a format in which said printer unit can input the recording data, and for  
supplying the recording data to said printer unit, wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion for printing recording data as a plurality of dots; and

data supply control means, coupled to said interface means and said printer portion,  
for supplying the recording data from said interface means to said printing portion at  
predetermined printing intervals.

28. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit for printing out data supplied thereto; and

interface means, coupled to said printer unit, for converting facsimile image data into  
recording data having a format in which said printer unit can input the recording data, and for  
supplying the recording data to said printer unit, wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion including a carriage for printing recording data while a carriage is  
moving in a first direction and a second direction opposite to the first direction; and

data supply control means, coupled to said interface means and said printer portion,  
for supplying the recording data from said interface means to said printing portion at  
predetermined printing intervals.

29. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit for printing out data supplied thereto; and

interface means, coupled to said printer unit, for converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can input the recording data, and for supplying the recording data to said printer unit, wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion including a carriage for printing recording data while the carriage skips over areas having no image; and

data supply control means, coupled to said interface means and said printer portion, for supplying the recording data from said interface means to said printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

30. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit for printing out data supplied thereto; and

interface means, coupled to said printer unit, for converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can input the recording data, and for supplying the recording data to said printer unit, wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion for storing the recording data in a memory printing recording data;  
and

data supply control means, coupled to said interface means and said printer portion, for initially clearing the memory in the printing portion and then supplying the recording data from said interface means to said printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

31. A facsimile machine comprising:

a printer unit for printing out data supplied thereto; and

interface means, coupled to said printer unit, for converting facsimile image data into



recording data having a format in which said printer unit can input the recording data, and for supplying the recording data to said printer unit, wherein said printer unit comprises:

a printing portion including a font memory storing font data and for printing recording data; and

data supply control means, coupled to said interface means and said printer portion, for supplying the recording data from said interface means to said printing portion at predetermined printing intervals.

32. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data with said printing unit.]

33. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein in said converting step the facsimile data is converted based on a Centronics interface specification.

5-5 A6> [34. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said step of supplying the recording data includes the substeps of:

inputting a predetermined character data at the predetermined printing intervals;

gating the recording data so that the recording data is supplied to said printing unit when the predetermined character data is supplied thereto from said inputting step; and

outputting a control signal when said inputting step inputs the predetermined character data, said step of supplying the recording data to the printer unit being based on said control

signal.]

35. The method as claimed in claim <sup>32</sup>~~34~~, wherein in the step of supplying recording data the predetermined character data indicates a font having only black dots.

36. The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein in said substep of gating the recording data, the recording data is gated by AND gates to each of which a corresponding one of bits of said predetermined character data and a corresponding one of bits of said recording data are input.

37. The method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising the steps of:  
supplying recording data from an external unit to said printer unit; and  
selecting either the recording data supplied from the external unit or the recording data supplied from the step of converting facsimile image data to said printer unit.

38. The method as claimed in claim <sup>32</sup>~~34~~, wherein said step of converting facsimile image data loads the predetermined character data into said printer unit.

39. The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein said step of converting facsimile image data loads the predetermined character data into said printer unit when said printer unit is activated.

40. The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein said substep of inputting a predetermined character data converts the predetermined character data into black data indicating a font having only black dots, and wherein when the black data is supplied to said gating step, the recording data from said step of converting facsimile image data is supplied to said printing portion via said gating step.

41. The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein said substep of inputting a predetermined character data converts the predetermined character data by OR gates to each

of which a corresponding one of the bit of the predetermined character data and a bit indicating a black dot are input.

Sub A7} [42. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data as a plurality of dots with said printing unit.

43. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, said printer unit including a carriage, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data with said printing unit while said carriage is moving in a first direction and a second direction opposite to the first direction.

44. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, said printer unit including a carriage, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data while said carriage skips over areas having no image.

45. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, said printer unit including a memory storing recording data, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

clearing the memory of said printer unit;

storing the recording data in the memory of said printer unit;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data with said printer unit.

46. A method for driving a facsimile machine including a printer unit for printing out data having a predetermined format, said printer unit including a font memory, comprising the steps of:

converting facsimile image data into recording data having a format in which said printer unit can receive the recording data;

supplying the recording data to said printing unit at predetermined printing intervals;

and

printing the recording data with said printer unit including said font memory.--]

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